

Serial Number: 08/855,895  
Inventor: David S. Stephens et al.  
Atty. Docket No. 26552.00028

Sir:

This amendment and response is timely filed within two months of the Examiner's final Office Action mailed on January 7, 1999. Please amend the above-identified application as indicated below, and consider the appended remarks.

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel Claims 25-27.

Please modify Claims 1, 6, 17 and 18 as follows:

1. (twice amended) A reactive personnel protection system comprising:  
2 a radar-based ballistic projectile detection system;  
3 at least one rapidly deployable anti-ballistic air bag; and  
4 a gas-generating system for rapid deployment of said air bag in response to  
5 detection of the approach of a ballistic projectile in proximity to said person by said  
6 detection system.

1 6. (twice amended) The system of Claim 1 wherein said rapidly  
2 deployable anti-ballistic air bag is constructed from polyethylene material.

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1           17. (amended) A method to reactively protect personnel from the rapid  
2           approach of [an] a ballistic object by deployment of an air bag prior to the arrival of the  
3           object at the location of said personnel, comprising the steps of:  
4           detecting the approach of said ballistic object in proximity to said personnel;  
5           discriminating the presence of said ballistic object with respect to the presence of  
6           electronic noise;  
7           activation of a gas-generation system in response to discrimination of the presence  
8           of said ballistic object; and  
9           deployment of an anti-ballistic air bag between said ballistic object and said  
10           personnel responsive to said activation of said gas-generation system.

1           18. (amended) The method of Claim 17, wherein said detecting step is  
2           accomplished using a radar-based projectile detection system [and wherein said object is  
3           a ballistic projectile].

Please add the following new claim:

1           32. (New) A reactive personnel protection system of a type in which at  
2           least one air bag is inflated responsive to detection of a destructive object prior to contact  
3           between said object and a person, said system comprising:  
4           a destructive object detection system;